under Government's consideration to invite Japanese equity participation in the public sector steel plants;

(b) whether such equity participation or foreign assistance would be utilised for Durgapur, Rourkela and Bokaro Steel Plants; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI MAKHAN LAL FOTEDAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) No foreign equity participation is envisaged for Durgapur, Rourkela and Bokaro Steel Plants. However, foreign financial assistance when available on acceptable terms would be considered for these steel plants.

Drug addicts in Delhi

*91. SHRI P. N. SUKUL: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of drug addicts in Delhi has gone up considerably during the last three years; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to meet the situation in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI): (a) Although no figures of drug addicts in Delhi are available, the number of drug addicts coming forward for de-addiction to the counselling centres and de-addiction centres set up in Delhi during the last three years has shown an increase. The available information indicates, that the problem of drug abuse has spread to all sections of society. Building up of public awareness is the most important step in mobilising community efforts for preventing further spread of drug abuse and for this purpose several meetings and publicity campaigns have been undertaken in the recent past. There has, hence, been a rapid increase in public awareness about the danger of drug abuse.

(b) The Government has adopted a multi-dimensional approach involving identification, referral services, treatment, public awareness, education, training of functionaries and control of illicit trafficking for prevention and control of drug abuse.

Memorandum from the Sundargarh Industrial Mazdoor Union, Orissa

*92. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN:
SHRI MOSTAFA BIN QUASEM:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have rereived a memorandum dated the 16th November, 1987 from the Sundargarh Industrial Mazdoor Union, Orissa;

(b) if so, what are the salient points raised by the Union in the said memorandum; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A Statement is placed on the Table of the House.

Statement

In a Memorandum dated the 16th November, 1987, the Sundargarh Industrial Mazdoor Union has alleged that the management of Orissa Cement Limited had daclared an illegal lockout of its Refractory Plant at Rajgangpur from 1-10-1987 and sought the Labour Ministry's intervention in the matter of reopening the factory and settlement of the various demands raised by he Union. The Memorandum, inter alia, has drawn attention to the following statutory violations alleged to have been committed by the management of Orissa Cement Plant Limited:-

(i) Trade Union leaders are being victimised for trade union activities.